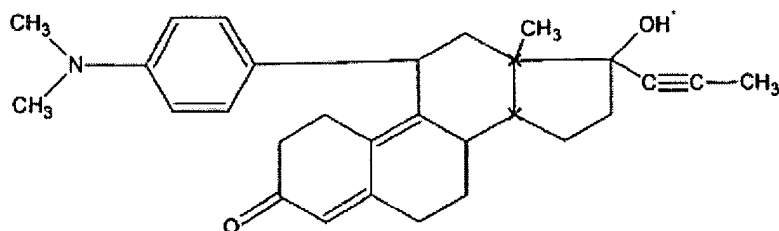


IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-38. (Cancelled)

39. (New) A method of modulating a Hedgehog protein signaling pathway in a mammal, which comprises administering to the mammal an amount of 17[beta]-hydroxy-11[beta]-(4-dimethylaminophenyl)-17[alpha]-(prop-1-ynyl)estra-4,9-dien-3-one of the formula:



or an acid addition salt thereof effective to treat tumors linked to hyperactivation of the Hedgehog pathway, wherein the tumors are selected from the group consisting of medulloblastomas, glioblastomas, oligodendrogliomas, basal cell carcinomas, trichoepitheliomas, rhabdomyosarcomas and tumors of kidney.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein said effective amount of 17[beta]-hydroxy-11[beta]-(4-dimethylaminophenyl)-17[alpha]-(prop-1-ynyl)estra-4,9-dien-3-one is administered orally or sublingually.

41. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein said effective amount of 17[beta]-hydroxy-11[beta]-(4-dimethylaminophenyl)-17[alpha]-(prop-1-ynyl)estra-4,9-dien-3-one is administered parentally.

42. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein said effective amount of 17[beta]-hydroxy-11[beta]-(4-dimethylaminophenyl)-17[alpha]-(prop-1-ynyl)estra-4,9-dien-3-one is administered locally.

43. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein an acid addition salt is administered.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the acid addition salt is a salt of an inorganic acid.

45. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the acid addition salt is a salt of an organic acid.
46. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said effective amount administered is from 100 mg to 1 g per day for an adult human.
47. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the inorganic acid addition salt is a salt of hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, nitric acid, sulfuric acid or phosphoric acid.
48. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the organic acid addition salt is a salt of acetic acid, benzoic acid, maleic acid, fumaric acid, succinic acid, tartaric acid, citric acid or aspartic acid.